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REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
(RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/575,377
Filing Date: May 22, 2000
First Named Inventor: James J. Hickman
Group Art Unit: 1631
Examiner: M. P. Allen
Attorney Docket Number: 215177.00101
<b>Attorney Customer Number: 27160</b>

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:

a.

Previously submitted

i.  Consider the amendment/reply after final under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on April 3, 2003.

ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

i.  Enclosed:

ii.  Amendment/Reply

iii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iv.  Information Disclosure Statement

v.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. Miscellaneous

a.  Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of three months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required.)

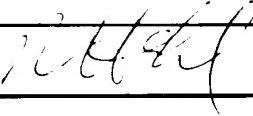
b.  Other

3. Fees

- a.  The filing fee is calculated as follows:
- i.  \$375.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)  
ii.  Petition for extension of time and Check in the amount of \$400.00  
iii.  Other
- b.  Check in the amount of \$375.00 is enclosed.
- c.  The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1710.

**Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required**

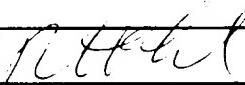
Name: Gilberto M. Villacorta, PH.D.  
Reg. No. 34,038  
Robert V. Hahl, PH.D.  
REG. No. 33,893

Signature:  Date: June 3, 2003

**Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

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